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116

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON (AP)-SEN. JOHN STENNIS, D-MISS., TOOK OVER AS CHAIRMAN
OF THE ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE DEALING WITH THE CENTRAL
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY TODAY, SUCCEEDING SEN. RICHARD B. RUSSELL,
D-GA.

RUSSELL WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACTIVE IN CONGRESSIONAL SUPERVISION
OF THE CIA IN HIS ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE AND ITS DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE.

STENNIS ALSO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE FULL ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE,
A POST HE TOOK OVER FROM RUSSELL AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CONGRESS.

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Comment:

These comments represent the initial and tentative reaction of the Office
of Current Intelligence to the attached item from the news services..

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* Senator Stennis comments on Mr. Helms appearance before his sub-committee tomorrow.

UPI-21

WASHINGTON—SEN. JOHN STENNIS, D-Miss., CHAIRMAN OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, SAID TODAY THE NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION TREATY WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED WHEN A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE, CHIEFLY DIA DIRECTOR RICHARD B. HELMS, TOMORROW.

BUT STENNIS DID ANNOUNCE HIS COMMITTEE WILL QUESTION TOP PENTAGON OFFICIALS, AND PERHAPS SECRETARY LAIRD, ON THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF THE TREATY.

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE TREATY HEARINGS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS FOR ABOUT AN HOUR TODAY. AFTER THE DISCUSSION, STENNIS ANNOUNCED THREE OF THE WITNESSES TO BE CALLED NEXT WEEK.

GEN. EAGLE G. WHEELER, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS; DR. JOHN S. FOSTER JR., DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING, AND DR. GLENN T. SEABORG, CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION.

THE TREATY ITSELF WILL NOT BE BEFORE THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE. STENNIS EMPHASIZED HIS COMMITTEE WAS NOT TRYING TO HORN IN ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, WHICH DOES HAVE JURISDICTION.

"OUR HEARINGS WILL BE INFORMAL. THEY ARE JUST TO LET THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE BE MADE INFORMED OF THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF THE TREATY, SO WE CAN THEN CAN INFORM OTHER SENATORS," STENNIS SAID.

THE MISSISSIPPI LAWMAKER ALSO STATED HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE HEARINGS IN HIS COMMITTEE WOULD DELAY FLOOR CONSIDERATION OF THE TREATY, SINCE IT IS REPORTED TO THE SENATE FLOOR.

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These comments represent the official reaction of the Office of Current Intelligence to the enclosed item from the news services.

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